



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

AUG 29 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Keith Steele
Plant Manager
Columbian Chemicals Company
3500 South Road S
Ulysses, Kansas 67880

RE: Notice of Violation under Section 113(a)(1) of the Clean Air Act

Dear Mr. Steele:

Enclosed is a Notice of Violation (NOV) issued to Columbian Chemicals Company (Columbian) under Section 113(a)(1) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(1). In the NOV, the United States Environmental Protection Agency notifies Columbian of violations of pre-construction permitting and Title V requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Kansas State Implementation Plan at its carbon black manufacturing plant in Hickok, Kansas.

This NOV does not constitute a waiver of EPA authority to pursue an enforcement action under Section 113 of the Act, or of state or local authority to pursue an enforcement action under applicable state and local statutes, for any violation addressed herein. The NOV does not affect Columbian's responsibility to comply with any applicable federal, state or local regulations. The EPA will consider its enforcement options under Section 113 of the Act in further addressing these matters.

If Columbian has any questions or wishes to discuss the violations identified in this NOV, please contact Hugh McCullough, Air Permitting and Compliance Branch at (913) 551-7191, or Alex Chen, Office of Regional Counsel, at (913) 551-7962.

Sincerely,

for Becky Weber
Director
Air and Waste Management Division

Enclosure

cc w/encl: Larry Scheinpflug, Global Environmental Manager
Columbian Chemicals Company

David Buente, Esq.
Sidley Austin LLP

Kellie Ortega, EPA HQ
Charlie Garlow, EPA HQ